

25th January 1928].

- (c) It has not been possible as yet to draw any definite conclusions from the experiment which is being made. The Government desire to await the result of this experiment. To prohibit the sale of foreign liquor in these taluks would so modify the conditions under which the experiment is being made as to make it a different experiment.

Medical

Visits of municipal councillors and local board members to hospitals.

* 1474 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons which led the Government to pass G.O. No. 740 restricting the visits and visiting hours of municipal councillors and members of local boards to hospitals and in-patient wards to hospital and that, too, in the company of the medical officer in charge or with his knowledge and permission; and

(b) the reasons which originally led the Government to make provision for those visits?

A.—(a) The order was issued in order to prevent grave inconvenience to patients in the hospital wards.

(b) The provision was made with a view to define the relationship which should subsist between the civil surgeon and local bodies.

Introduction of the Village Aid Scheme in this Presidency.

* 1475 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government have arrived at any decision regarding the introduction of the Village Aid Scheme in this Presidency?

A.—No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“May I know whether the Government are considering the question of the introduction of the Village Aid Scheme in this Presidency?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“We have received a report and we are examining it but we cannot say whether we will or will not accept it.”

Alleged distribution of Christian religious pamphlets among non-Christian patients in Government hospitals.

* 1476 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding the distribution of Christian religious pamphlets among non-Christian patients in Government hospitals;

(b) if so, by whom such distribution is done; and

(c) whether such distribution has been objected to by any non-Christian patients or their relations or friends?

A.—The Government have not received any complaints of the kind referred to.

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Government management of taluk headquarters hospitals.

* 1477 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken over the management of taluk headquarters hospitals for which purpose a supplementary demand for four lakhs of rupees has been passed in October last;

(b) if not, why not; and

(c) if so, when and how many?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The supplementary demand referred to was not moved in the Legislative Council in October 1927. The points raised by the hon. Member in the question do not therefore arise.

Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ May I know when the Minister for Public Health proposes to take charge of Taluk Headquarters Hospitals ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ We are making budget provisions and intend taking over 95 institutions.”

[For further starred questions see page 275 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Legislative***Reservation of a seat in the Legislative Council for a Railway official.*

1478 Q.—M. ABDUL WAHAB SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why a seat in the Council is not reserved as in Pre-Reform days for a Railway official on behalf of the two biggest railways running in Southern India ?

A.—There is no provision in the Madras Electoral Rules reserving a seat for a Railway official.

Police*Alleged obstruction of traffic in South Kanara during His Excellency the Governor's visit.*

1479 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was obstruction of traffic by the police along certain public roads in South Kanara by which His Excellency the Governor was to pass or was expected to pass during his tour in South Kanara from 10th to 15th October 1927 for more than an hour and even for hours before His Excellency was expected to pass along those roads;

(b) under what authority such obstruction was carried out;

(c) the number of police employed for keeping order for a distance of about 65 miles along which His Excellency passed on the 10th October 1927 in the town of Mangalore and for about 30 miles from Mangalore to Karkal respectively; and what the extra cost involved thereby was; and